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A WELSH TRISTAN EPISODE

BY TOM PEETE CROSS

Attention was first called to the following story by J. Gwenogvryn Evans in the *Report on Manuscripts in the Welsh Language* (Historical Manuscripts Commission) Vol. I, Part II (London, 1899). Evans apparently accepts the account as belonging to the old Tristan saga (*op. cit.*, Vol. II, Part I, p. iv), and the antiquity of the material is discussed by Ivor B. John in the *Transactions of the Guild of Graduates* [of the University of Wales,] (Cardiff, 1904, pp. 14 ff.). Windisch, in the *Nachträge* to his study on "Das keltische Britannien bis zu Kaiser Arthur" (*Abhandl. der königl. sächs. Gesell. der Wissn.*, Phil.-Hist. Kl., xxix (1912), 285 ff.) suggests that the episode is "ein alter Schluss der Sage," but Loth, in an extended discussion (*Revue celtique*, xxxiv [1913,] 377 ff.) seeks to minimize the traditional elements to be found in the Welsh story.

The *Ystori Trystan* is found in four manuscripts. A fragmentary version occurs in MS. Peniarth 147, written about 1566. Another, apparently also fragmentary, is found in MS. Peniarth 96, written between 1565 and 1616. These are known to me only through Evans' account. The complete text is given in MSS. 6 (c. 1550) and 43 (c. 1749) in the Cardiff Free Library. A dialogue between Trystan and Gwalchmai, resembling that found in the Cardiff manuscripts of our text, is printed without indication of source in the *Myvyrian Archaeology of Wales* (edn. of 1870, pp. 132 f.) under the following caption:

LLYMA ENGLYNION A fu rhwng TRYSTAN FAB TALLWOH A GWALCHMAI FAB GWYAR, gwedi bod TRYSTAN dair blynedd allan o Lys Arthur ar sorriant, a gyrru o ARTHUR wyth ar hugain o'i Filwyr i geisio ei ddal a'i ddwyn at ARTHUR ac e fwrriodd TRYSTAN hwynt i lawr bob un yn ol eu gilydd, ac ni ddaeth er ned ond er GWALCHMAI a'r Tafod aur.

Here are certain *englynion* (epigrams) which were exchanged between Trystan and Gwalchmai son of Gwyar, after Trystan in

displeasure had been absent from the court of Arthur for three years, after Arthur had sent twenty-eight of his warriors to seek to capture him and bring him to Arthur, and Trystan cast them to the ground one after another; and he did not go to court for any one except Gwalchmai of the golden tongue.

The Peniarth fragments and the text of ms. Cardiff 6 are printed by Evans (*op. cit.*, Vol. I, Part II, pp. 596, 920 ff.; Vol. II, Part I, pp. 104 ff.). Evans also gives a brief summary of the story (*op. cit.*, Vol. II, Part I, p. iv). Evans' transcript of the Cardiff text differs from the manuscript in details and omits one important passage several lines in length. Evans' work is apparently the basis of Loth's text (*Rev. celt.*, xxxiv, 366 ff.) which reproduces some of its peculiarities. Manuscript 43, which Loth following Evans, incorrectly regards as a mere copy of ms. 6, is here printed for the first time. The emendations are taken from Loth's edition, from the *Myvyrian Archaeology*, and from ms. Cardiff 6, which latter I have collated with Evans' text.

YSTORI TRYSTAN Y MODD IR AETH AG ESYLLT GWRAIG MARCH Y
MHEIRCHION.¹

¹ *Ystori . . . Meirchion*, in Card. 43 only. The fragment in Pen. 96, as printed by Evans, reads as follows: *Dyma rymddiddan fy Rrwng syr trystram vab tallwch/ ag Essyllt, Gwraig march vab meirchion vn arall or marchogion: yn y kyfamser ir aeth trystram ag esyllt gwraig march ap meirchion ar heru j fforest golyddon a merch i gida hi elwyd golhog haf ddydd yn llaw forwyn &c*

esyllt wenn na fydd ofnawg . . .

kelynn ag eiddiav ag yw/addeil i dail tra fon byw.

In a foot-note Evans says, "Besides the usual 'Englynion' (see *Myvyrian*, Vol. I, p. 132) there is much additional matter here." (*Report*, Vol. I, Part II, p. 596.)

For purposes of comparison Evans' text of the fragment in Pen. 147 is given below: *Yn yr amser yr aeth Trystan ap talwch ag esyllt gwraig briod marz am heirchion ar heru y goed Cylādon a Golhog hafeyð yn llaw forwyn gyda hi ar bach bychan yn baits gydag ynte yn dwyn pasdiod a gwin gydag hwynt/a gwelū o fan ðail y wnyth bwyd yðynt/ag yna ygraeth marz fab meirchion at arthyr y gwyno Rag trystan ag ydolwyn yðo dial y Syrhaed arno o heruoyð y fod ef yn nes o gyrenyð y Arthyr nag drystan o achos kefynder oð farch ab meirchion y Arthyr/ ag nyd oyd drystan ond nai fab Cefnder yðaw/ mi af miam tayly hebr arthyr y gesio naill ay . . . ay Jawn yti/Ag yna yr aythant ynghylch Coed Cylyðon (*op. cit.*, pp. 920 f.)*

Yn y cyfamser yr aeth Trystan ap Tallwch² ag Esysllt,³ gwraig⁴ March y Meirchion,⁵ ar herw i goed Clyddon,⁶ a Golwg Hafddydd yn llaw forwyn gyda hi⁷ a'r Bâch Bychan yn bayts gidag⁸ ynte, yn dwyn pasteiod⁹ a gwin¹⁰ gyda hwynt,¹¹ a gwelu o ddail¹² a wnaethpwyd yddunt. Ag¹³ yna¹⁴ yr aeth March y Mheirchion¹⁵ i gwynaw at Arthur¹⁶ rhag Trystan ag i dolwyn¹⁷ iddo ddial i sarhad ar Drystan¹⁸ o herwydd¹⁹ i fod ef yn nês o garenydd iddaw²⁰ nag oedd Trystan, o achos fod March y Mheirchion yn gefnder²¹ i Arthur ag nad oedd Trystan ond nai fab cyfnither i

² *Trystan—Tallwch.* Pen. 147, *Trystan ap Talwch*; Card. 6, *Trystan ap Trallwch*; Pen. 96, *Trystram*. The caption of Pen. 96 has *Syr Trystram val Tallwch*.

³ So also Pen. 96 and Pen. 147. Card 6, *Esyslld*, as generally in this ms. The caption of Pen. 96 has *Essyllt*.

⁴ So also Pen. 96. Pen. 147 and Card. 6, *gwraig briod*.

⁵ *March—Meirchion.* Pen. 147 and Card. 6, *March ap Meirchion*, as generally in the latter ms. Pen. 147, *Marz am Heirchion*. The caption of Pen. 96 has *March vab Meirchion*.

⁶ *i goed Clyddon.* Pen. 96, *i fforest Golyddon*; Pen. 147, *y goed Oylūdon*; Card. 6, *i goed Kylyddon*; Loth, *i goed Kelyddon*.

⁷ *a Golwg Hafddydd—hi.* Pen. 96, *a merch i gida hi elwyd Golwg Haf Ddydd yn llaw forwyn*; Card. 6, *a Golwg Hafddydd yn llaw forwyn iddi*; Pen. 147, *a Golwg Hafeyð yn llaw forwyn gyda hi*.

⁸ *yn bayts gidag*, Card. 6 and Pen. 147. Card. 43, *o baitsdid*.

⁹ Pen. 147, *pasdiol*.

¹⁰ Card. 6, *gwin*.

¹¹ *gyda hwynt.* Card. 6, *gidag gwynt*.

¹² *o ddail.* Pen. 147, *o fan ðail*.

¹³ Card. 6 and Pen. 147. Card. 43, *Ar*.

¹⁴ Lacking in Card. 6.

¹⁵ *March y Mheirchion.* Card. 6, *March ap Meirchiwn*; Pen. 147, *Marz fab Meirchion*.

¹⁶ *i gwynaw—Arthur.* Card. 6, *at Arthwr i gwyno*; Pen. 147, *at Arthyr y gwyno*.

¹⁷ Card. 6 and Pen. 147. Card. 43, *dolwg*.

¹⁸ *ar Drystan.* Card. 6 and Pen. 147, *arno*. In Card. 6 *arno* is succeeded by the following words, omitted in Evans' transcript: *o gorwydd i fod ef yn nes o gyrenydd i arthur nag oedd drystan o achos gefnder (oedd) farch ap meirchiawn i arthur ag nad oedd trystan ond nai ap gefnder iddaw (mi) af mi am teulu heb arthur i keisio naill ai kluad ai iawn iti*.

¹⁹ The passage corresponding to *o herwydd—gwādditi* is supplied by Loth from Pen. 147.

²⁰ Card. 6, *i Arthwr*; Pen. 147, *y Arthyr*.

²¹ *fod March—gefnder.* Card. 6, *gefnder (oedd) Farch ap Meirchiawn*; Pen. 147, *kefynder oēð Farch ab Meirchion*.

Arthur.²² "Mi âf mi a'm teylu," ebr Arthur, "i geisio naill ai jawn ai gwâditi."²³ Ag yna ir aethant yn ghylch²⁴ coed Celydon.²⁵

Cynedd[fau]²⁶ oedd ar Drwstan: pwy bynag a dynai waed ar Drwstan marw fyddau;²⁷ pwy bynag y tynau Dristan i waed marw a fyddae hwnw.²⁸ A phen²⁹ glowes³⁰ Esyllt siarad o amgylch y coed, y crynnodd hi rhag dwylo Trystan.³¹ Ag yno y gofynnodd Trystan iddi paham y crynasau;³² ag y dowad hithau mae rhag ofn am dano fô.³³ Ag y canodd Trystan 'r engln hwn:³⁴

"Esyllt weñ, na fydd ofnog;³⁵
Tra fwyb i'th erchwynog,³⁶
Nith ddw̄g³⁷ trais trychan marchog,
Na thrychanwr³⁸ llirugog."

Ag yno y cyfodes³⁹ Trystan i fynu ag a gymerth ar ffrwst⁴⁰ i gledde yn i law ag i kyrchodd⁴¹ y gâd yn gynta ag y gallodd oni chyfarfu a March⁴² y Mheirchion. Ag yna y dwad⁴³ March y Meir-

²² i Arthur. Card. 6, *iddaw*; Pen. 147, *yðaw*.

²³ ai jawn ai gwâditi. Card. 6, ai kluad ai iawn; Pen. 147, *ay . . . ay jawn yti*, which is adopted by Loth.

²⁴ Ag—ghylch, Card. 6. Pen. 147, *Ag yna yr aythant yn ghylch*; Card. 43, *Ar yno ir athan o amgylch*.

²⁵ Pen. 147, *Cylyðon*.

²⁶ Card. 6, *Kyneddfav*.

²⁷ ar Drwstan marw fyddau. Card. 6, *arno ef marw fyddai*.

²⁸ Dristan—hwnw. Card. 6, *ynte waed arno marw fyddai*.

²⁹ A phen. Card. 6, *Affan*.

³⁰ Written *gl^owes*. Card. 6, *glowodd*. For *siarad* Card. 6 has *y son a'r siarad*.

³¹ o amgylch—Trystan. Card. 6, *o bob parth i'r koed, dychrynnw a wnaeth hi rrwng dwylo Trystan*.

³² y crynasau. Card. 6, *i dychrynasai hi*.

³³ Card. 6, *ef*.

³⁴ y canodd—hwn. Card. 6, *yno i dowod Trystan*.

³⁵ Evans gives this line as occurring in Pan. 96 without the remainder of the stanza.

³⁶ fwyb—*erchwynog*. Card. 6, *fwy fi i'th erchwiniog*.

³⁷ Nith ddw̄g. Card. 6, *Nithwg*.

³⁸ Card. 43, *th^y chanwr*. Loth, following Evans(?), has *llur* for the *wr* of Card 6, and emends to *llu*. He translates, "trois cents chefs cuirassés." Evans' transcript of Card. 6 reads *lwr*.

³⁹ Card. 6, *kodes*.

⁴⁰ a gymerth ar ffrwst. Card. 6, *a godd*.

⁴¹ i kyrchodd, Card. 6. Card. 43, *a gyrrhodd*.

⁴² oni cyfarfu a March, Card. 6. Card. 43, *yna y cyfarfu March*.

⁴³ Ag—dwad. Card. 6, *Ag a ddowodd*.

chion: "Mi a'm [l]ladda ⁴⁴ fifty hun, i ⁴⁵ ladd fô." ⁴⁶ Ag yna y dowad y gwyr eraill ⁴⁷ oll: ⁴⁸ "Mefl i ninau od ymyrrwn arno fo." ⁴⁹ Ag yna yr aeth Trystan trwy y tair câd yn ddiargyweddd.

A Chau ⁵⁰ Hîr oedd yn caru Golwg Hafddydd. Sef a wnaeth yntav, dowod lle ⁵¹ yr oedd Esylt a chanu yr englyn hwn:

"Esylt weñ, serchog wylan,
ys dyweyd ar ymddiddan; ⁵²
ef a ddiengis ⁵³ Trystan."

Esylld: "Cai ⁵⁴ wyn, os ⁵⁵ gwîr a ddyweidi ⁵⁶
wrth ymddiddan a myfi,
gordderch avr ⁵⁷ yt a geffi."

Kae Hir: "Gordderch avr ⁵⁸ nis dymunaf ⁵⁹
am y ddeydes a dyngaf: ⁶⁰
Golwg Hafddydd geisiaf." ⁶¹

Esylld: "Os gwîr y chweddel gynau
a ddeydest ⁶² ym o'th enau,
Golwg Hafddydd a fydd tau."

Yna ⁶³ yr aeth March y Meirchion ⁶⁴ yr ail waith att Arthur ⁶⁵
ag ir wylawdd wrthaw am na chae nag jawn na gwad ⁶⁶ am ei wraig
briod. Ag y dowad Arthur, ⁶⁷ "Nî wnn i gyngor itti ond hyñ:
danfon ⁶⁸ gwyr o gerdd dañau i leisiau iddaw o bell, ag yn ol hyny

⁴⁴ *Mi — ladda*, Card. 6. Card. 43, *ni ladda*.

⁴⁵ Card. 6, *er i*.

⁴⁶ Card. 6, *ef*.

⁴⁷ *gwyr eraill*. Card. 6, *gwyr dra ill*, which Loth, following Evans, emends to *gwyrdâ eraill*.

⁴⁸ Lacking in Card. 6.

⁴⁹ *arno fo*. Card. 6, *arno*.

⁵⁰ Card. 6, *Chae*.

⁵¹ *a wnaeth — lle*, Card. 6. Card. 43, *dwad a wnaeth ynte ir lle*.

⁵² *ys — ymddiddan*. Card. 6, *o dwydaſ ar ymddiddan*.

⁵³ *ef a ddiengis*, Card. 6. Card. 43, *y foddiengis*.

⁵⁴ Card. 6, *Kae*.

⁵⁵ Card. 6, *o*.

⁵⁶ Card. 6, *ddwydi*.

⁵⁷ Card. 6. Card. 43, *dur*.

⁵⁸ Card. 6. Card. 43, *dur*.

⁵⁹ Card. 6, *damvna*.

⁶⁰ Card. 6, *yt yma*.

⁶¹ Card. 6, *a garaf*.

⁶² Card. 6, *ddwydaist*.

⁶³ Card. 6, *Ag yna*.

⁶⁴ Card. 6 adds *at Arthv*.

⁶⁵ *att Arthur*. Lacking in Card. 6.

⁶⁶ *nag jawn na gwad*. Card. 6, *na gwad na thal*.

⁶⁷ Card. 43, *Ag yr y dowad Arthur*. Lacking in Card. 6.

⁶⁸ Card. 6, *gyrv* preceded by *heb yr Arthvr*. Card 6 lacks the *yr* of *gwyr*.

danfon⁶⁹ gwyr o gerdd dafod ag englynion moliant.”⁷⁰ A hyny a wnaethant. Ach wedi hyny Trystan alwodd⁷¹ y kerddorion⁷² atto ag a roddes⁷³ iddynt⁷⁴ ddyrneidie o aur ag arian. Ach wedi hyny⁷⁵ y gyrrwyd am dangnefedd⁷⁶ attaw, nid⁷⁷ amgen Gwalchmai.⁷⁸ Ag⁷⁹ y canai Gwalchmai y englyn⁸⁰ hwn:⁸¹

⁶⁹ Card. 6, *gyrv.*

⁷⁰ Card. 6 adds: *o'i folianv ef a'i ddwyn o'i lid a'i ddigofaint.*

⁷¹ Card. 6, *a elwis.*

⁷² *y kerddorion*, Card. 6. Card. 43, *atheo y gerdd.*

⁷³ *a roddes.* Card. 6, *y rroddet.* ⁷⁴ Lacking in Card. 43.

⁷⁵ *Ach wedi hyny.* Card. 6, *Ag wed gyny.*

⁷⁶ *am dangnefedd.* Card. 6, *pen y dyngnefedd.*

⁷⁷ Lacking in Card. 6.

⁷⁸ Card. 6, *na Gwalch Mai ag Gwyr.*

⁷⁹ Card. 6 adds *yna.*

⁸⁰ *y* (read 'r) *englyn.* Card. 6, *yr hen englyn.*

⁸¹ The following version of the *englynion* is printed in the *Myvyrian Archaeology of Wales*, ed. 1870, p. 132 f.:

- G. *Prwystyl sydd tan anianawl*
Pan fo'r mor yn ei chanaawl
Pwy wyl filwr anfeidrawl
- T. *Prwystyl fydd tonn a tharan*
Cyd bont brwystul eu gwahan
Yn nydd trin mi yw Trystan
- G. *Trystan barabl difai*
Yn nydd trin nid ymgiliai
Cydymaith yt oedd Gwalchmai
- T. *Mi a wnawn er Gwalchmai yn nydd*
O bai waith cochwydd yn rhydd
Nas gwnae'r brawd er eu gilydd
- G. *Trystan gynneddfau eglur*
Huddellt baladr oth lafur
Mi yw Gwalchmai nai Arthur
- T. *Yno gynt Gwalchmai nog mydrin*
O bae arnat ti orthrin
Mi a wnawn waed hyd ddeulin
- G. *Trystan o honot ti y pwyllon*
Oni'm gommeddai'r arddwrn
Minneu a wnawn goreu ag allon
- T. *Mi ai gofyn er a fen*
Ac nis gofynaf ar grauen
Pwy yw'r milwyr sydd om blaen

- G. *Trystan gynneddfau hynod*
Nid ydynt ith adnabod
Teulu Arthur sy'n dyfod
- T. *Arthur nim bogelaf*
Naw cant cad ai tyngeddaf
Om lledir minneu a laddaf
- G. *Trystan gyfaill rhianedd*
Cyn mynd yngwaith gorfedd
Goreu dim yw tangnefedd
- T. *O caf fy ngledd ar fy nghlun*
Am llaw ddeau i'm ddiffyn
Ai gwaeth finneu nag undyn
- G. *Trystan gynneddfau eglur*
Oyn cynnaws lliaws llafur
Na wrthod yn gar Arthur
- T. *Gwalchmai o honot y pwyllaf*
Ag om pen y llafuriaf
Fal i'm carer y caraf
- G. *Trystan gynneddfau blaengar*
Gorwlychyd cafod kann ddr
Tyred i ymweled ath gdr
- T. *Gwalchmai atdebion cymmen*
Gorwlychyd cafod kann rhych
Minneu af ir lle mynych

Ac yno daeth Trystan gyda Gwalchmai at Arthur.

- G. *Arthur atdebion cymmen*
Gorwlychyd cafod kann penn
Llyma Drystan bydd lawen
- A. *Gwalchmai atdebion difai*
Gorwlychyd cafod kann tai
Oroesaw wrth Drystan fy Nai
- Trystan wynn bendefyg llu*
Oar dy genedl cred a fu
A minneu yn ben Teulu
- Trystan bendefig cadau*
Oymmer gystal ar goreu
Ag yn gywir gad finmau
- Trystan bendefig mawr call*
Odr dy genedl nith ddwg gwall
Nid oera rhwng odr ar llall
- T. *Arthur o honot y pwyllaf*
Ac ith ben y cyfarchaf
Ac a fyynnach mi ai gunaf

“Abrw[y]sg⁸² fydd toñ anfeid[r]awl
pan fo’r⁸³ môr⁸⁴ yn i ganawl:
pwy⁸⁵ wyt filwr anianol.”⁸⁶

Trystan: “Abrwysg⁸⁷ a fydd⁸⁸ toñ a tharan
cyd bo brwysg⁸⁹ a gwahan:⁹⁰
yn nydd trîn myfi yw Trystan.”

Gwalchmai: “Trystan gyneddfai⁹¹ difai
ar dy ’madrodd nid oes bai:⁹²
cydymeth [yt]⁹³ oedd Walchmai.”

Trystan: “Mi nawn er Walchmai nydd⁹⁴
o bai arno [waith kochwydd]⁹⁵
nas gwnai’r brawd er i gilydd.”

Gwalchmai: “Trystan,⁹⁶ *bendefig* eglyr,
dwys y dyrnod dy lafur:
mi yw Gwlchmai nai Arthur.”

Trystan: “Yn gynt, Gwalchmai, nag yn rhîn,⁹⁷
o bai arnat waith brwydrin,⁹⁸
mi nawn waed hyd deilin.”

⁸² Card. 6, *mawr*, written in fresher ink. Loth adopts *Prwystyl* from the *Myv. Arch.*, which has the line *Prwystyl sydd tan anianawl*.

⁸³ *Pan fo*, added in Card. 6 in fresher ink.

⁸⁴ *pan — mor*, Card. 43 and *Myv. Arch.* Card. 6 has: *pan fo ton mor*. (Vid. n. 83.)

⁸⁵ Card. 43. Added in Card. 6 in fresher ink.

⁸⁶ Card. 6. Card. 43, *arianawl*.

⁸⁷ Card. 6, *Brwystyl*. ⁸⁸ *a fydd*, lacking in Card. 6.

⁸⁹ *bo brwysg*. Card. 6, *bo i brwystl*; *Hyv. Arch.*, *bont brwystul*; Card. 43, *boed brwysg*.

⁹⁰ Card. 43 and *Myv. Arch.* Card. 6, *gwaran*.

⁹¹ Card. 6, *gynheddfe*; *Myv. Arch.*, *barabl*.

⁹² *nid — bai*. Card. 6, *ni chawn fai*.

⁹³ *Myv. Arch.* Card. 6, *ut*. Lacking in Card. 43.

⁹⁴ Card. 6, *Mi a nawn er Gwalchmai ynydd*; *Myv. Arch.*, *Mi a wnawn er Gwalchmai yn nydd*.

⁹⁵ Lacking in Card. 43. *Myv. Arch.*, *O bai waith cochwydd yn rhydd*.

⁹⁶ This and the following stanza are lacking in Card. 6. A variant of the second occurs in *Myv. Arch.* See above, n. 81.

⁹⁷ *Myv. Arch.*, *Yno gynt Gwalchmai nog mydrin*.

⁹⁸ *Myv. Arch.*, *O bae arnat ti orthrin*.

- Gwalchmai: "Trystan gyneddfau talgrwn,
oni ⁹⁹ gomoddai archgrwn,¹⁰⁰
mine a nawn gore [i] gallwn."¹⁰¹
- Trystan: "Mi ai gofynaf ¹⁰² er caen ¹⁰³
nis gofynaf er graen:¹⁰⁴
Pwy [yw]'r ¹⁰⁵ nifer sydd o'r blaen?"
- Gwalchmai: "Trystan gyneddfau hynod,
Nid ydynt ¹⁰⁶ i'th adnabod:
teulu Arthur [sydd] ¹⁰⁷ y'th ragod."
- Trystan: "Er Arthur ¹⁰⁸ ni fogelaf,
naw can ¹⁰⁹ câd a gynhyrfaf;¹¹⁰
oni leddir mine a laddaf."¹¹¹
- Gwalch.: "Trystan [gyfaill] ¹¹² rhianedd,
cyn myned [yngwaith] ¹¹³ coch[w]edd,¹¹⁴
gorau dim oedd ¹¹⁵ dangnefedd."

⁹⁹ Card. 6, *oni'm*.

¹⁰⁰ Card. 43 and Card. 6. Loth adopts the *arddwrn* (wrist) of *Myv. Arch.*, but suggests the possibility that *Archgrwn* (Round bodied) may be intended as the name of Gwalchmai's horse.

¹⁰¹ Written on margin in Card. 43. Card. 6, *i gallwn*; *Myv. Arch.*, *ag allwn*.

¹⁰² Card. 6, *gofwya*.

¹⁰³ *Myv. Arch.*, *er a fen*.

¹⁰⁴ *nis* — *graen*. Card. 6, *nis gofyna er graen*; *Myv. Arch.*, *Ac nis gofynaf er grauen*.

¹⁰⁵ *Pwy yw'r*, Card. 6. Card. 43, *Pwy'r*. *Myv. Arch.*, *Pwy yw'r milwyr sydd om blaen*.

¹⁰⁶ Card. 6, *ydem*.

¹⁰⁷ Lacking in Card. 43. In *Myv. Arch.* the line reads: *Teulu Arthur sy'n dyfod*.

¹⁰⁸ Card. 6, *E . . . hv*. In *Myv. Arch.* the line reads: *Arthur nim bogelaf*. Loth suggests emending to *Er Arthur mi ni'm ogelaf*, "Pour Arthur même je ne me déroberai pas."

¹⁰⁹ *naw* — *câd*. Card. 6, *na . . . kad*; *Myv. Arch.*, *naw cant cad oi tyngeddaf*.

¹¹⁰ Card. 6, *kynhyrfa*. Loth prefers the *a tyngeddaf* of *Myv. Arch.*

¹¹¹ *oni* — *laddaf*. Card. 6, *om lledir mi a'i lladda*.

¹¹² Card. 43 and Card. 6, *gyneddfau*. In order to restore the meter, Loth adopts the *gyfaill* of *Myv. Arch.*

¹¹³ Card. 6 and *Myv. Arch.* Card. 43, *yn waed*.

¹¹⁴ Card. 6, *kochwedd*; *Myv. Arch.*, *gorfedd*.

¹¹⁵ *Myv. Arch.*, *yw*.

- Trystan: "O chaf ¹¹⁶ fy nghledd ¹¹⁷ ar fy nghlun ¹¹⁸
a'm llaw ddehau [i'm ddiffyn,] ¹¹⁹
ai ¹²⁰ gwaeth i mi nag yddun." ¹²¹
- Gwalchmai: "Trystan gyneddfau [eglur,] ¹²²
hyddell ¹²³ paladr ¹²⁴ o'th lafur;
na wrthod yn gân ¹²⁵ Arthur."
- Trystan: "Gwalchmai gyneddfau trada
gorwlychod ¹²⁶ cawad kan tyrfa; ¹²⁷
fel im caro i cara." ¹²⁸
- Gwalchmai: "Trystan gyneddfau blaengar,
gorwlychod cawad kan dêr; ¹²⁹
tyred i ymddiddan ¹³⁰ a'th gân."
- Trystan: "Gwalchmai gyneddfau gwrth[g]rych, ¹³¹
gorwlych ¹³² cawad kan ¹³³ rhych;
mi af ir lle i mynych." ¹³⁴

¹¹⁶ So also *Myv. Arch.* Card. 6, *cha*.

¹¹⁷ *fy nghledd*, Card. 43 and *Myv. Arch.* Card. 6, *ynghledd*.

¹¹⁸ *fy nghlun*, Card. 43 and *Myv. Arch.* Card. 6, *ynghlun*.

¹¹⁹ *Myv. Arch.* Card. 43, *yw dylun*; Card. 6, *yn ddihefn*.

¹²⁰ So also *Myv. Arch.* Card. 6, *nid*.

¹²¹ *ai* — *yddun*. *Myv. Arch.*, *ai gwaeth finneu nag undyn*.

¹²² Card. 6 and *Myv. Arch.* Card. 43, *eglyn*.

¹²³ *Myv. Arch.*, *huddellt*; Card. 6, *dyddell*.

¹²⁴ *Myv. Arch.*, *baladr*; Card. 6, *babaer*.

¹²⁵ So also *Myv. Arch.* Card. 6 adds *ut*.

¹²⁶ Both here and in the following *englyn* Card. 43 has *gorw lychod*.

¹²⁷ Card. 6, which, Loth suggests, might be emended to *can ma* (a hundred fields) to restore the meter. Card. 43, *caen trasa*.

¹²⁸ In *Myv. Arch.* the line reads: *Fal i'm carer y caraf*.

¹²⁹ *kan dêr*. Card. 6, *kan dêr*; *Myv. Arch.*, *cann dêr*; Card. 43, *blaen dêr*.

¹³⁰ *i ymddiddan*, Card. 43. Card. 6, *ymddiddan*; *Myv. Arch.*, *i ymweled*.

¹³¹ Card. 43, *gwrthrych*. *Gwrthgrych* is suggested by Loth as an emendation for the *gwrth glych* of Card. 6. Loth would also substitute the *attëbion* (responses) of the *Myv. Arch.* for *gynheddfav* of Card. 6, and adds, "Le sens paraît être; Gwalchmai, toi qui as réponse à tout." (*Rev. celt.*, xxxiv, 376, n. 2).

¹³² Card. 6, *gorwlychyd*; *Myv. Arch.*, *Gerwlychyd*.

¹³³ Card. 6. *Myv. Arch.*, *cann*; Card. 43, *caen*.

¹³⁴ *mi* — *mynych*. *Myv. Arch.*, *minneu af ir lle mynych*; Card. 6, *myfi a ddo lle mynych*.

Yna yr ¹³⁵ aeth Trystan gyda ¹³⁶ Gwalchmai att Arthur, ag y canodd ¹³⁷ Gwalchmai yr englyn hwn:

“Arthur gyneddfau cymmen,¹³⁸
gorwlychod cawad kan ¹³⁹ pren;
llyma Drystan, bydd lawen.”

Yna canodd Arthur yr englyn hwn: ¹⁴⁰

“Gwalchmai gyneddfau difai,¹⁴¹
ynydd trin nid ymgelai;
croeso wrth Drystan, fy nai.” ¹⁴²

Ag nid yngenai ¹⁴³ Trystan er hyn; ag y canodd ¹⁴⁴ Arthur yr ail englyn: ¹⁴⁵

“Trystan ¹⁴⁶ wyn, bendefig llu,
car dy genedl gyda thu,¹⁴⁷
a mine, yn ben teulu.”

Ag nid yngennodd Trystan ddim er hyny; ag y canodd Arthur y 3dydd [englyn:]

“Trystan, bendefig cadau,
cymer cystal a'r gorau,¹⁴⁸
Ag yn gowir câr ¹⁴⁹ finau.”

¹³⁵ Card. 6, *Ag yna*.

¹³⁶ Card. 6, *a*.

¹³⁷ Card. 6, *kanai*.

¹³⁸ Card. 43 and Card. 6, *gyneddfau amgen*. *Myv. Arch.*, *atdebion cymmen*. Loth would substitute *cymmen* for *amgen*. Through a typographical error *eymmen* has slipped into Loth's text.

¹³⁹ *cawad kan pren*. Card. 6, *y kan pen*. *Myv. Arch.*, *cafod cann pen*, which Loth adopts. Card. 43, *cawad blaen preñ*.

¹⁴⁰ *Yna canodd* — *hwn*, omitted in Card. 6 and *Myv. Arch.*

¹⁴¹ Card. 6 and *Myv. Arch.* Card. 43, *delai*.

¹⁴² *Drystan fy nai*, Card. 6 and *Myv. Arch.*; in fresher ink in Card. 43.

¹⁴³ *yngenai* — *hyn*. Card. 6, *ynganodd Trystan er hyny*.

¹⁴⁴ *Ag* — *canodd*. Card. 6, . . . *odd*, which Loth emends to *Yna y kanodd*.

¹⁴⁵ *ail englyn*, Card. 6. Card. 43, *dil*.

¹⁴⁶ Card. 6, . . . *tan*.

¹⁴⁷ *gyda thu*. Card. 6, *gida thydv*; *Myv. Arch.*, *cred a fu*.

¹⁴⁸ “*Gorau*, le meilleur, le plus brave, qui, chez les Celtes, a droit à la première part, en particulier au morceau du héros; c'est le *kynrann* gallois, celui qui a la première part.” (Loth, *Rev. celt.*, xxxiv, 376, n. 4.)

¹⁴⁹ *Myv. Arch.* has the line: *Ag yn gywir gad finnau*.

Ag nid yngenodd Trystan er hyñ; ¹⁵⁰ ag y canodd Arthur y 4ydd
[englyn:] ¹⁵¹

“Trystan gyneddfau ¹⁵² mowrgall,
car dy genedl, nith ddûg ¹⁵³ gwall,
nid oera rhwng câr a’r all.” ¹⁵⁴

Yna ¹⁵⁵ yr atebai Trystan ag y canai yr englyn hwn i Arthur i
ewyrth: ¹⁵⁶

“Arthur, o honot y pwyllaf
ag o’th ¹⁵⁷ beñ y cymhenaf, ¹⁵⁸
ag a fynech mi a’i gwnaf.”

Ag yno y rhodded y dyngnhefedd ar Arthur rhyng Trystan a
March y Mheirchion. ¹⁵⁹ Ag ymddiddanodd Arthur a hwy ill deu-
wedd ¹⁶⁰ ar gylch; ag ni fynau yr ¹⁶¹ un ohonunt fod heb E sylt.
Ag yno y barnodd Arthur hi i’r ¹⁶² naill pen ¹⁶³ fae y dail ar y coed,
ag i’r llal y pryd ¹⁶⁴ na bai y dail ar y coed; ag i’r gwr priod gael
dewis. Ag a ddewise ¹⁶⁵ ynte y pryd na bae’r dail ar y coed, o
achos mae ¹⁶⁶ hwy a fyddde’r nos yr amser hwnw. Ag y myne-
gawdd ¹⁶⁷ Arthur i E sylt hyny; ag i dowad hithe, ¹⁶⁸ “Bendigedig
fo’r farn a’r neb a’i rhoddodd!” ¹⁶⁹ Ag y canai ¹⁷⁰ E sylt yr
englyn hwn:

¹⁵⁰ *Ag nid* — *hyn*. Card. 6, *Ag er hyny ni ddowodd Trystan ddim*.

¹⁵¹ *ag y canodd* — *4ydd*, found only in Card. 43.

¹⁵² *Myv. Arch.*, *bendefig*.

¹⁵³ So also *Myv. Arch.* Card. 6, *nithwg*.

¹⁵⁴ Card. 6 and *Myv. Arch.*, *llall*.

¹⁵⁵ Card. 6, *ag yna*.

¹⁵⁶ *atebai* — *ewyrth* (for *ewythr*). Card. 6, *atebodd Trystan Arthvr*.

¹⁵⁷ So also Card. 6. *Myv. Arch.*, *i’th ben*, which Loth prefers.

¹⁵⁸ Card. 6, *llafaraf*; *Myv. Arch.*, *cyfarchaf*.

¹⁵⁹ *y rhodded* — *Mheirchion*. Card. 6, *i tyngnyfeddodd Arthur a March ap Meirchiawn*.

¹⁶⁰ *a hwy* — *deuwedd*. Card. 6, *a hwy ill dav*; Card. 43, *a nhw ill deuwedd*.

¹⁶¹ Lacking in Card. 6.

¹⁶² *hi i’r*. Card. 6, *i’r*.

¹⁶³ Card. 6, *pan*.

¹⁶⁴ *y pryd*. Card. 6, *pen*.

¹⁶⁵ *a ddewise*. Card. 6, *a’i dewisodd*.

¹⁶⁶ Lacking in Card. 6.

¹⁶⁷ Card. 6, *mynegis*.

¹⁶⁸ Card. 6, *hi*.

¹⁶⁹ Card. 6, *rroddes*.

¹⁷⁰ Card. 6, *kanodd*.

“Tri ffren sy dda i rryw: ¹⁷¹
 kelyn ag eiddew ag yw,
 a ddeilia’ u [ddail] yn i byw;
 Trystan pie fi yni fyw!”

Ag yn y modd hwnw y colles March y Mheirchion i wraig yn dragowydd. Ag felly y terfyna. ¹⁷²

TRANSLATION

A STORY OF TRYSTAN, HOW HE WENT WITH ESYLLI, THE WIFE OF MARCH Y MEIRCHION

In the interim Trystan ap Tallwch and Esyllt, the wife of March y Meirchion, fled into the forest of Clyddon (Kelyddon), Golwg Hafddydd (Summer Day Aspect), her handmaiden, and Back Bychan (Little Small), his page, carrying pasties and wine with them. A couch of leaves was made for them.

And then March y Meirchion went to complain to Arthur against Trystan, and to entreat him to avenge upon Trystan the insult offered him, because he was nearer of kindred to him (Arthur) than Trystan was, for March y Meirchion was first cousin to Arthur and Trystan was but the nephew-son of a first cousin to Arthur. “I will go, I and my family,” ¹⁷³ said Arthur, “to seek either satisfaction or bloodshed(?)” And then they surrounded the wood of Kelyddon.

One of the peculiarities of Trystan was that whoever drew blood upon him died, and whoever Trystan drew blood upon died also.

¹⁷¹ The stanza is given as in Card. 6 except for the third line, in which *ddail* is taken from Loth’s emended version. In Pen. 96 the line reads: *addeil i dail tra fon byw*. Card. 43 has the following:

*Celyn ag yw ag eiddw
 a ddeilia i dail hyd ange;
 celyn ag eiddw ag yw
 a ddeilia i dail yni haw.*

¹⁷² *Ac yn — terfyna*, Card. 43 only. After the stanza Card. 6 has *Ar felly* (?).

¹⁷³ “*Tayly*, habituellement *teu-lu* (pour *tei-lu*) . . . signifie proprement la *troupe de la maison*, c’est-à-dire la *famille* au sens le plus étendu, et souvent, comme ici, les *gens armés du clan*.” (Loth, *op. cit.*, p. 372, n. 4.)

When Esysllt heard the talking around the wood, she trembled against the two hands of Trystan. And then Trystan asked her why she trembled, and she said it was because of fear for him. Then Trystan sang this *englyn*:

“Fair Esysllt, be not fearful;
while I am protecting thee,”¹⁷⁴
three hundred knights will not succeed in carrying thee off,
nor three hundred armed men.”

And then Trystan rose up and hastily took his sword in his hand, and approached the first battalion as quickly as he could until he met March y Meirchion. And then March y Meirchion said, “I will kill myself in order to kill him.” And then the other men all said, “Shame upon us if we interfere with him.” Thereupon Trystan went through the three battalions uninjured.

Kae Hír (K. the Long) was in love with Golwg Hafddydd. Thus he did: he [went to] the place where Esysllt was and spoke, singing this *englyn*:

“Blessed Esysllt, loving sea-gull,
Speaking in conversation, [I say that]
Trystan has escaped.”

Esysllt: “Blessed Kae, if it is true what thou sayest,
in conversation with me,
thou wilt obtain a precious (lit. golden) mistress.”

Kae: “A golden mistress I desire not
because of what I have said . . . (?)
Golgwg Hafddydd I seek.”

Esysllt: “If it is true the tale
thou hast just told me with thy mouth,
Golgwg Hafddydd will be thine.”

And then March y Meirchion went a second time to Arthur and lamented to him because he obtained neither satisfaction nor blood for his wife. And Arthur said, “I know no counsel to give thee

¹⁷⁴ “*Erchwyniog* . . . est dérivé de *erchwyn*, proprement *bois du lit, côté protégé du lit*; au figuré, il a le sens de *support, soutien* et aussi de *protecteur*.” (Loth, *op. cit.*, p. 373, n. 1.)

except to send instrumental musicians to sound toward him from afar, and after that to send vocal musicians with *englynion* (epigrams) of praise." So they did. Thereupon Trystan called to him the artists and gave them handfuls of gold and silver. After that some one was sent to him concerning peace; namely, Gwalchmai. And Gwalchmai sang this *englyn*:

"Heavy is the immense wave
when the sea is at the centre [of its course;]
who art thou, impetuous warrior?"

Trystan: "Heavy are the wave and the thunder (together),
though their separation be unwieldy(?);
in the day of battle I am Trystan."

Gwalchmai: "Trystan of irreprovable qualities,
I find no fault with thy discourse;
Gwalchmai was thy companion."

Trystan: "I should perform for Gwalchmai, on the day
he should have on hand the bloody work,
what brother would not do for brother."

Gwalchmai: "Trystan, noble (lit. bright) chieftain,
Heavy [the blows] thy effort has struck (lit.
threshed)(?);
I am Gwalchmai, nephew of Arthur."

Trystan: "Quicker than an instant, O Gwalchmai (?),
if thou shouldst have on hand the work of
combat,
I would make gore up to the two knees (blood
knee-deep?)."

Gwalchmai: "Trystan of perfect qualities,
if *Archgrwn* did not refuse [service,]
I would do the best I could."

Trystan: "I ask in order to pacify,
I ask not out of asperity;
what is the number which is before [me]?"

Gwalchmai: "Trystan of noble qualities,
they do not know thee;
it is the family of Arthur which is ambushing
thee."

Trystan: "Because of Arthur I do not threaten;¹⁷⁵
nine hundred battalions I shall provoke;
unless I am slain, I shall slay."

Gwalchmai: "Trystan, friend of women,
before entering upon the bloody work,
the best thing is peace."

Trystan: "If I have my sword on my hip,
and my right hand to defend me,
am I worse off than they?"

Gwalchmai: "Trystan of shining qualities,
who breakest the [lance-] shaft with thy effort,
do not reject Arthur as a kinsman."

Trystan: "Gwalchmai of pre-eminent qualities,
the shower has over-drenched a hundred hosts;
as he may love me, I shall love him."

Gwalchmai: "Trystan, whose habit is to be foremost,
The shower has over-drenched a hundred oaks;
Come and converse with thy kinsman."

Trystan: "Gwalchmai of crossgrained (?)¹⁷⁶ qualities,
the shower over-drenches a hundred furrows;
I will go wherever thou mayest wish."

Then Trystan went with Gwalchmai to Arthur, and Gwalchmai
sang this *englyn*:

"Arthur of courteous habits,
the shower has over-drenched a hundred trees;
here is Trystan, be joyful."

¹⁷⁵ But see above, n. 108.

¹⁷⁶ But see above, n. 131.

Then Arthur sang this *englyn*:

“Gwalchmai of faultless manners,
who wast not wont to conceal thyself on the day of
battle;
[I bid] welcome to Trystan my nephew.”

Notwithstanding that, Trystan said nothing; and Arthur sang the second *englyn*:

“Blessed Trystan, army chieftain,
Love thy kindred as well as thyself,
and me as head of the tribe.”

And notwithstanding that, Trystan said nothing; and Arthur sang the third *englyn*:

“Trystan, chief of battles,
Take as much as the best,¹⁷⁷
and love me sincerely.”

In spite of that, Trystan said nothing; and Arthur sang the fourth *englyn*:

“Trystan of exceedingly prudent manners,
love thy kindred, it will not bring thee loss;
coldness grows not between one kinsman and
another.”

Then answered Trystan and sang this *englyn* to Arthur, his uncle:

“Arthur, I will consider of what thou sayest,
and thee first will I adorn [with praise;]
whatever thou mayest wish, I will do.”

And then peace was made by Arthur between Trystan and March y Meirchion, and Arthur conversed with the two of them in turn, and neither of them was willing to be without Esyllt. Then Arthur adjudged her to one while the leaves should be on the wood, and to the other during the time that the leaves should not be on the wood, the husband to have the choice. And the latter chose the time when the leaves should not be on the wood, because the night

¹⁷⁷ See above, n. 148.

is longest during that season. And Arthur announced that to Epyllt, and she said, "Blessed be the judgment and he who gave it!" And Epyllt sang this *englyn*:

"Three trees are good in nature:
the holly, the ivy, and the yew,
which keep their leaves throughout their lives:
I am Trystan's as long as he lives!"

And in this way March y Meirchion lost his wife forever. And so ends the story.

The University of Chicago.
